



WHO IS WHO AT 'IZVESTIA' TOURNAMENT?

The closing three games — Finland vs Sweden, Canada vs Finland and the USSR vs Czechoslovakia — will seal the fate of the top three places at the December 16-21 "Izvestia" ice-hockey tournament in Moscow. We will sum up the outcome in our next issue. However, we may venture here with some conclusions made by Sergei Makarov, an attacker of the Soviet national team and CAC striker, after a game between the USSR and Sweden which the hosts won 10-1 (an outcome not quite common in such bouts). He says:



Soviet ace Sergei Makarov.

Our players and coaches see the tournament as a rehearsal for the next spring world championship, due in Moscow (also on this ice) and therefore the coaches have experimented a lot. The teams have more new talents who make no bones about their plans to come here in a few months' time. Only Canada will clearly bring a different side for the world championship, for the aspirants to the Olympic squad are clearly below the standards shown by the Canadians at world championships.

Czechoslovakia, the world champions, had to be content with draws in their games against Sweden and Finland, after which they beat Canada 7-2. I assume that the change of coaches and the inclusion of several new players somehow constrained the champions' initiative. Yet the side is potentially strong in all their elements and the odds are that they will be our arch rivals this season.

Granted the Czechoslovaks are traditionally strong, the Finns provide a pleasant surprise by their aggressiveness, the knack to contain opponents' attack and to attack in a bold combinational style. In all



The Canadians jealously guarding their posts. ● Sweden's head coach Curt Lindström in deep thought.



The USSR-Finland game was so "hot" as to occasionally force the umpire into acrobatics.

Stenmark's 80th triumph

After Laurie Graham of Canada and Austrian Peter Wirsberger won recent downhill events came the turn of the ace, Erika Hess confidently won the slalom at home in Savognin, Switzerland, ahead of little-known competitor Brigitte Collard, and Italian Nadia Bonini. Hess now has 81 points and has left far behind in the world cup standings last season's sensation Michaela Gerg of West Germany, who has 60 points, and Maria Walliser of Switzerland.

Swedish veteran Ingemar Stenmark at long last scored his 80th cup victory by winning the

giant slalom at La Villa (Italy) only 0.42 sec ahead of little-known Austrian Hubert Strolz. Robert Erlacher of Italy was third. After this jubilee win beaming Stenmark claimed he would still try to contest the small cups in the special and giant slaloms, admitting he would hardly be equal to winning the overall cup. He is now in seventh place with 35 points. The race is led by another ace, Peter Mueller of Switzerland, with 70 points, followed by Marc Girardelli of Luxembourg (tipped by most specialists to win the cup) with 68 points, and downhill specialist Wirsberger — 65 points.

Storming Annapurna

Several Bulgarian Alpine climbers, who earlier climbed the Lhotse (8,501 m) and the Everest (8,848 m) summits in the Himalayas are planning to climb the three-topped beauty Annapurna (8,091 m). This summit, which is very difficult to scale, they will storm up the south wall. The route passes across the wall's central ridge, with more than half passages of top difficulty categories as long as a hundred to 800 metres (the length of assault ropes is normally 40 metres).

The head of the expedition organized by the Khristo Prodanov Alpine club of the Chavdar tourist society at the Kremikov iron-and-steel combine is Bayan Atanasov. Of 16 members half are seasoned climbers who were atop the Everest or Lhotse or both.

The climbers are now in Nepal. The advance group is already working on a base camp as high as 4,300 m. After the route is totally worked out, the location of five intermediate camps will be fixed.

ITALY PROVIDES A SURPRISE

The Italian rugby squad pleased their fans a lot at the close of the year by drubbing visiting Romania, many-time European champions, 19-3.

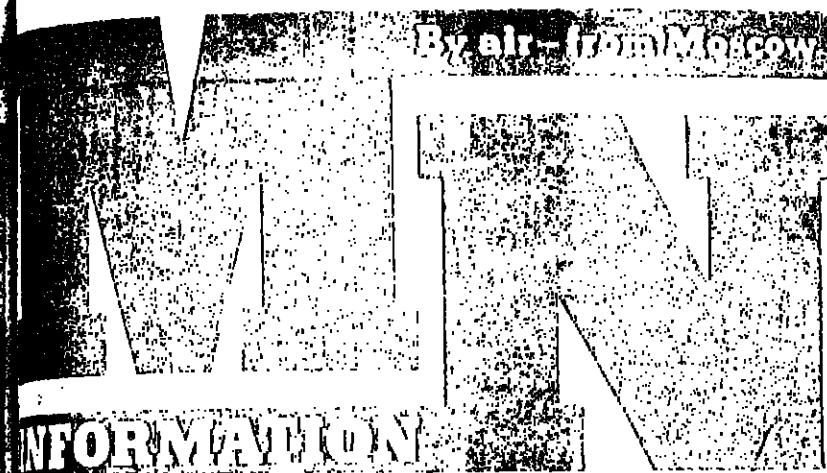
This was a second game for the Italians in the European championship which started off in late October. In the first they lost away to the USSR 13-15. The USSR, Italy and Romania are now level with four points and a win and a defeat each.



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USSR-Turkey: Colors of good- neighbourly relations

Long-time programme for development of economic, scientific and technological cooperation between the USSR and Turkey was signed in Ankara during the visit by the Soviet Government representative Tikhonov. Also signed an agreement on trade for 1990 and a programme of scientific and technological cooperation for the period 1986.

Soviet leader termed documents solid blocks on the edifice of relations between the two countries was erected.

Soviet Union, I want to stress, would like to see building not only roomy all but also seismic-resistant said. This is why we consolidate and develop positive achievements in relations.

ever different our economic and social systems, our have common long-term interests are based on geographic proximity, historical cultural interest in trade economic cooperation, exchange and most important, the need to live in peace and friendship as good neighbours should.

Arkhipov visits Wuhan

Arkhipov, The First Vice-Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, who is on a visit to China at the invitation of the Chinese People's Government, has arrived in the city of Wuhan in Hubei province.

During a reception given in honour of the Soviet guest, Chairman of the people's government of Hubei Province Zhang Zhen said that the visit of the Soviet-Chinese friendship were the number of industrial projects built in the Soviet Union, like the Metallurgical Complex, is an important base of metallurgy, and also the Wuhan bridge across Yangtze River.

Arkhipov said that links between the city of Wuhan are points in the history of Soviet-Chinese relations and economic, scientific and cultural cooperation between the two countries. He stressed the Soviet Union, the USSR are revered of Soviet pilots who fought the soldiers during the liberation war waged by the Chinese.

With what thoughts do you enter the New Year?

This question was addressed by MNI correspondents to different people—the Minister of Nationalities and Tribes of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, a famous Soviet singer, foreign businessmen in the USSR and the best Soviet athlete of 1984. We publish their answers on pages 2, 6, 7 and 8. Also read the New Year's Viewpoint on page 5.

'Russian Winter' Arts Festival

Maria SITKINA, Vice-Chairman, USSR State Committee for Foreign Tourism



● The Grigory Voryovka State Ukrainian Folk Choir.

Photo by Andrei Stepanov



● The White Hall at the Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts is the venue for the "December Recital", which this year are dedicated to 20th-century music performed by famous Soviet musicians. Our photo was taken during a concert given by the pianist Svyatoslav Richter, the sponsor of the festival.

Photo by Alexander Alexandrov

FACTS and EVENTS

● The Liaison Government has drawn the attention of the international community to the tense situation along its border with Thailand. A letter sent by the country's permanent mission at the United Nations to the Security Council, signed by many facts of continued direct and deliberate aggression on the part of Thailand against Laos.

● The Pentagon has decided to use the Japanese port of Yokosuka, which it has turned into a major base of the American Navy in the Far East, for the purpose of rearming the "Midway" aircraft carrier. At the same time, the American military command has announced its intention to turn Yokosuka into a base of registration for American nuclear aircraft carriers. "Carl Vinson" and "Enterprise".

● The Indian Government has ordered the closure of scientific research centre for the de-

velopment and testing of new dangerous chemicals under tropical conditions. It was revealed during investigations that this centre existed in the laboratories of a factory belonging to Union Carbide (an American Transnational corporation) in Sholap, a town in the state of Madhya Pradesh.

● Several thousand people took part in a march in Holland to protest against the presence of American nuclear weapons in that country and the plans to deploy cruise missiles there.

Soviet, Afghan scholars confer

A conference of Soviet and Afghan scholars, the first in the history of the two countries, was recently held in Moscow. It was devoted to the 20th anniversary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA).

Within this relatively short period of time the PDPA, once an illegal organization persecuted by ruling regimes, has emerged as the governing party of the first democratic state on Afghan soil, said at the opening ceremony director of the Institute of Oriental Studies of the USSR Academy of Sciences Academician Voryovka. The party is the initiator of historic traditions of Soviet-Afghan friendship of peoples, the struggle for social advancement along the road of non-capitalist development and the strengthening of national independence.

(Continued on page 8)



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The future inspires optimism

Sulaiman LAIQ, Minister of Nationalities and Tribes of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, President of the Afghan Academy of Sciences, poet

For Afghans, the first day of 1985 is a double holiday. Together with the New Year we celebrate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan with which all the present progressive transformations in the country are linked.

Evaluating the past year, said S. Laiq, I must note first of all that of great military, political and moral significance has been the routing by the units of the Afghan armed forces of counter-revolutionary gangs in the area of Panjshir. This serves as a confirmation that the Afghan people are able to protect their revolution.

Another happy event was the fact that seven hundred Afghan children from orphanages were sent to the Soviet Union to continue studies.

Their parents gave their lives in the struggle for the future of their native land.

The year 1984 brought not only good news.

Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, the worthy successor of Jawaharlal Nehru and an outstanding stateswoman and political leader of the modern world, died tragically. We associate her name with the lofty ideals of freedom, peace, and independence of peoples. Her cause will continue to live.

The future inspires optimism. The anti-war movement will be able to prevent nuclear disaster. Mankind will not allow itself to be destroyed.

People are mastering the secrets of Nature more and more. I hope and believe that at the turn of the century, mankind will use outer space exceptionally for peaceful purposes. It will "work" for the wellbeing of all human beings as well as the sun, the seas and the oceans.

Dangerous plans of the Pentagon

New York. As is reported by the newspaper, "The New York Times", the Pentagon is preparing in the near future to get down to mass brainwashing of the legislators seeking from them approval for dangerous plans for militarization of space. In view of this the newspaper quotes a recent statement of the US Defense Secretary Casper Weinberger who directly declared that the President does not intend to give up its "space wars" programme.

The Pentagon is accelerating the implementation of multi-thousand million research programmes aimed at creation in the near decade of a military potential in space with the help of such novelties as orbital combat stations, laser and beam weapons. As is noted by the weekly "US News and World Re-

port", out of the 26 thousand million dollars earmarked in the course of the next five years on works within the framework of the programme of "space wars", 5.5 thousand million dollars are earmarked for research in the area of ray weapons.

An important role in the plans for militarization of space is assigned to reusable spacecrafts which "US News and World Report" calls "the work horses" for the implementation of the programme of "space wars". Apart from this, the United States is preparing to deploy in the near future anti-satellite weapons. As is pointed out by "US News and World Report", the tests of an anti-satellite missile launched from the F-15 fighter, are intended to be carried out next year. This missile, stresses the weekly, can be launched from any accessible air field.

VIEWPOINT

UN ENTERS ITS 40th YEAR

The UN was in the making even before World War II was over. Peoples of the planet were united by a joint struggle against nazism — the most vicious enemy of human civilization.

Now, after four decades, they are again united by another common goal — prevention of nuclear war, the threat of which has become rather real and the blame for which lies at the doorsteps of the USA. Mankind faces the questions to be or not to be. This was the major issue before the 39th session of the UN General Assembly which continued for three months.

Thanks to new Soviet initiatives the Assembly's agenda was strengthened by two important and urgent issues: the use of outer space exclusively for peaceful purposes and the right of peoples to determine their own fate, which drew a rebuttal to the policy of state terrorism. Both these initiatives received the approval and support of the world community. Virtually unanimously the as-

sembly supported the Soviet view that a solution to the problem of non-militarization of outer space is of primary importance so far as the prevention of nuclear war and checking the arms race are concerned. The main direction of the Soviet proposal on using outer space for the benefit of mankind received approval in the resolution which was supported by practically all states with the exception of the USA.

The discussion at the UN forum of the two new Soviet initiatives and adoption of resolutions on them helped achieve substantive results also in other directions of the struggle for elimination of the nuclear war threat and the charting of specific routes to a safer world. The session recommended that states, primarily nuclear powers, formulate their policies in line with this most urgent task of today.

The world community again called on the USA and its allies to undertake not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. Critic-

ARGENTINA: FIRST YEAR OF CIVILIAN RULE

Buenos Aires. Most political observers believe that consolidation of democratic freedoms is the prime achievement of the constitutional government of Argentina headed by Raul Alfonsín during its first year in office.

On coming to power the government nullified the so-called black lists which existed under military regimes, reinstated by a special decree thousands of people arrested for political reasons, and allowed those who fled the country for fear of repression to return home. Yet still

much remains to be done towards restoring genuine democracy. Progressive public organizations demand the dismantling of the former repressive machine which still exists, insist on knowing the truth about the fate of some 9,000 persons missing during the terrible years of military dictatorship and punishment for all those guilty of massive violations of human rights. Only a small group of generals and senior officers are being tried now while the "rank-and-file executives" continue to serve in the police and the armed forces.



Sorry, Santa, this is my small present...

Drawing by Konstantin Rybko

Vilius KAVALIUSKAS

UN ENTERS ITS 40th YEAR

lim was voiced against Pentagon's doctrine of "intimidation" and "limited nuclear warfare".

The UN decisively supported the creation of nuclear-free zones in various parts of the globe, the strengthening of the treaty of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, and favoured talks on gradual nuclear disarmament, which would ultimately lead to a complete liquidation of nuclear weapons.

On the whole the session adopted over 60 resolutions calling on states, nuclear powers in particular, to facilitate, through a reduction in the burden of armaments, especially space and nuclear armament, these decisions were supported by the overwhelming majority of states. Only the USA and a group of its allies voted against 26 of them. America also cast lone votes against ten other resolutions.

On the whole the session demonstrated that the policy of peace and cooperation has a firm and solid foundation at the UN. The consolidation and ex-

pansion of the interaction of the socialist community and non-aligned nations continued.

Though not all the resolutions of the session like, say, the resolutions on the so-called Afghan and Kampuchean issues, answer the demands of political realism, on the whole, however, the assessment of its work is positive. It indicates that the forces of mankind's self-preservation are more powerful than the force of nuclear adventurism. The session gave an unequivocal affirmative answer to the main question of today: a world nuclear conflagration can be avoided.

One more peculiarity of the session was that many delegates talked of the need to improve Soviet-American relations. They hailed the intention of the Soviet Government to hold a serious and constructive dialogue with the USA.

Having ended this session, the UN enters the 40th year of its existence. In one of the resolutions the delegates declared May 8 and 9, 1985 celebration days of the 40th anniversary of victory over nazism. In World War II this double jubilee, as stressed by the UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, will once again remind the members of the noble principles and goals of the UN and the need to strictly observe and respect its Charter.

Soviet, Afghan scholars confer

(Continued on page 2)

The delegation of Soviet Afghan scholars who took part in the work of the conference was headed by professor A. Muhammed Zabara.

The participants discussed a wide range of issues connected with various aspects of the party's history and its leading role in translating into reality the ideals of the April Revolution and in the struggle against imperialist and reactionary forces.

Hafez Assad: Syrian people consistently sides with Lebanon

Damascus. The Syrian people consistently sides with Lebanon and its rightful struggle for the liberation of territories from Israeli occupationists, for its independence, for unity of the Lebanese people and territorial integrity of their country. This was stated here by President of the Syrian Arab Republic Hafez Assad in the course of his meeting with President of Lebanon Amin Gemayel. Syria, he said, will continue rendering the necessary aid to Lebanon in order to restore its sovereignty over the whole territory of the country.

Racist laws

Paris. Every four months in the Republic of South Africa a law is passed on an African for violating the so-called "pass laws", one of the most sinister political acts of the Apartheid regime under which a man with a black skin has not right to appear in a city without special papers. 142 thousand such cases were heard in the courts of the industrial centres of the country in 1983.

These facts were quoted by the well-known French journalist Yves Morceau, who visited the apartheid state. Race discrimination, he writes, saturates all spheres of everyday life in the South African Republic. Buses are running along the streets with "Whites Only" or "Blacks Only". Africans have been denied entry to beaches, public parks, and parks. In trains they are not allowed in coaches reserved for the Whites. Marriage or love between representatives of different races is a serious crime.

Anti-war movement scares Dutch Government?

The Hague. Informers hired by special services are operating within the organizations of the Dutch antiwar movement. This was confirmed by the head of the Dutch counterintelligence service Pieter de Haan, in an interview granted to the newspaper "NRC-Handelsblad". Among other things, he declared that his service is interested in those organizations and groups within the antiwar movement which are using "left-democratic" methods and allegedly "present a threat to the state".

P. de Haan noted however that the specific organizations. Instead, he has "contaminated" the antiwar movement. He pointed out that the agent provocateur J. Cardiner, who was exposed in May, was not only an agent of the American National Security Agency, but also, offered services to the Dutch counterintelligence service.

AFGHANISTAN: REVOLUTION BROUGHT QUALITY

The April Revolution and to the policies of anti-popular regimes sowed discord and enmity among various tribes and nationalities. The new system replaces them complete political, economic and social changes. declared Babrak Karmal during the meeting he had with the participants of the 20th anniversary of the April Revolution, solemnly inaugurating the congress of Afghanistan.

Jirgah participants have the People's Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and their resolve to defend sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Motherland from encroachments of imperialism and reaction.

Sensitive ear the CIA

French newspapers reveal the USA is concerned the developments in New Guinea where the United Front for the Kanak Liberation, voices the interests of the population, demands immediate granting of independence.

Central Intelligence Agency the newspaper "Le Monde Diplomatique", has set up the administrative centre — Caladonia, city of Noumea, powerful communications are wishing in this way to "the presence of the America".

to build transmitters in Israel?

Washington. According to "Washington Times", President Reagan sent a personal message to Israeli Premier Shimon Peres asking permission for construction of powerful transmitters in Israel for the use of America radio station.

Profitable business

The annual volume of heroin, cocaine, marijuana and other drugs is worth a billion dollars, according to a report released by the Canadian government which have over a decade investigated a network of drug traffic in Canada. The newspaper "The Globe and Mail" points out that the Canadians are every year on buying new cars. The profits are enormous. The profits are enormous. The profits are enormous.



● A mercenary training soldiers of the bloody regime in El Salvador to shoot from an American-made mortar.

There are numerous centres in the United States of America specializing in the recruitment of mercenaries. They are dispatched to Central America to engage in activities against countries on which the Washington administration has launched "instructors" to El Salvador, train soldiers of the bloody regime in anti-guerrilla war techniques and in the handling American-made weapons. Mercenaries are dispatched to Honduras, from where they carry out armed adventures against Nicaragua.

Science and technology

FISHING WITH NOISE

After more than twenty years of experiments Japanese scientists have stored a large collection of sounds and noises used in studying and controlling the conduct of fishes and other sea creatures. Some sounds make fish dive deeper, others make them surface at a particular spot. These facts have begun yielding practical results. The world's first real "sea farm" has been set up on the basis of these experiments in the Oita prefecture. A tower was placed in the middle of the Urakami Bay to transmit signals under water. The signals are regarded by fish as an invitation to "dinner". These sounds are also used to catch crabs.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIND IN CHINA

A fossil skeleton of a cave-man who lived approximately two hundred thousand years ago has been discovered by Chinese archaeologists excavating in the district of Yinkou in the Liaoning province. The find was made 400 kilometres north of the place where a Sianthropus was found in 1927 in a cave near the railway station of Zhoukoudian, 45 kilometres south-west of Peking.

Breeding crocodiles

The idea of establishing special nurseries to breed crocodiles is quite recent but it has become rather popular. The nurseries are easy to build and equip and will help solve two problems at once: to put under control the number of existing reptiles and to supply the world market with the ever-fashionable and valuable crocodile leather. Such nurseries, which occupy a brief period of time, already exist in a number of African countries. Recently one more was opened in Kenya. It will probably become the world's biggest. It is planned that the number of crocodiles will increase up to 20,000 by 1985. Every year leather from about 300 of them will be exported.

OF INTEREST

Ask everyone at one time

Experience in the last few years has shown that, by comparing ancient fairy tales with well-known historical facts, one can make striking discoveries. Specialists believe that a large amount of information is contained in the memory of story-tellers among such peoples as the Eskimos, Indians of both Americas, aborigines of Australia and New Zealand, the Papuans of New Guinea, the nomads of the African desert of Kalahari in Botswana, and among the Gypsies. It has been decided

to question story-tellers in all these nations, and even of smaller tribes simultaneously — when they arrive in London in autumn, 1986, to the 11th World Congress of Archaeologists.

Carl Dreyer's film found

"La Passion de Jeanne d'Arc", a masterpiece of world cinema, considered lost for a long time, has suddenly been discovered in a hospital not far from Oslo, Norway. This film was shot in 1927 by Carl Theodor Dreyer, one of the leading directors of silent films. In 1929, the only copy of the film perished during the outbreak in Berlin. Later

FROM the SOVIET PRESS

MAJOR VICTORY.

The resolution of the UN General Assembly to hold an international conference in Colombo in the first half of 1986 to work out an agreement on creating a peace zone in the Indian Ocean, is commented on in PRAVDA by Y. Nikolayev. The adoption of the resolution, notes the author, was preceded by an acute political struggle between the sponsors of a peace zone in the Indian Ocean — non-aligned countries actively backed by the states of the socialist community, on one hand, and its opponents — the USA and other imperialist states pursuing a policy aimed at the further militarization of that vast region, on the other.

The adopted resolution, the author believes, creates realistic opportunities for turning the Indian Ocean from a region of tension into a zone of peace. The implementation of their initiatives will depend on the determination, steadfastness and consistency of non-aligned countries, as their vital interests demand it. As for the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, they have rendered and will continue to render them all-round support.

'NIGHT HUNTERS' ON THE APOCALYPTIC HORSE

The activities of the 160th operative group stationed at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, USA, a unit which forms part of the 101 airborne division, represent direct state terrorism. This conclusion is made by IZVESTIA's correspondent in Washington A. Palladin.

The group whose strength is that of about a battalion consists of select helicopter men. It is subordinated not to the divisional commander, as it should be right, but to General Rice, Chief of special operations section of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Its servicemen are known as "night hunters", and their motto is "Death Awaits In the Dark". As is customary in the US Army they have their own coat of arms — a horseman riding a winged horse holding raised sword in his hand. However, the horse is not Pegasus who accompanies all poets, but a sinister horse from Apocalypse from the New Testament.

The choice of the symbol is not accidental. Like thieves at night, the servicemen of the 160th group sow death in other countries, trusting the Pentagon sword into the backs of unconquered peoples, stresses the author.

USA: MILITARIZATION OF THE ECONOMY

There is a flagrant discrepancy between the peaceful promises during the election campaign and the deeds of the Republican administration in the USA, writes in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA N. Korosyov, Candidate of Sciences (Economics).

The author notes that the 1985 Pentagon budget of almost 300,000 million dollars will increase to 313,700 million dollars in 1986 and to 362,800 million in 1987, to reach the stupendous sum of 411,500 million dollars in the 1988 fiscal year.

Under the Reagan administration, the author points out, major redistributions of capital investments within the company are taking place in favour of producing arms and military hardware. For example, the bosses of McDonnell Douglas raised their military investments from 29 per cent in 1983 to 47 per cent in 1985. In Boeing this figure is respectively from 15 to 36; in General Dynamics, from 19 to 41; in United Technologies — from 31.5 to 63.5; in Rockwell International, from 28 to 52, and Lockheed from 43.5 to 93 per cent.

THE WEST AND HUNGER IN AFRICA

Speaking at a press conference arranged at the UN headquarters, Berhanu Dersse, deputy commissioner of the commission for aid and reconstruction, expressed profound thanks to the Soviet Government and the people for disinterested and timely aid rendered to the Ethiopian population in overcoming the grave consequences of the protracted drought, writes G. Polyakov in SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIYA.

At the same time, notes the author, a misinformation campaign was launched in the West, aimed at discrediting the Ethiopian Government in the eyes of the world public, treating with distrust cooperation of Ethiopia with socialist countries. The US press succeeds especially in this bellyache. The West is trying to present all this as if it shows greater concern for the victims than the Ethiopian Government and the socialist countries friendly to Ethiopia. This trick, notes the author, is used so as to take advantage of economic difficulties in Ethiopia to exert pressure on her government. It is this policy that was adopted with regard to Mozambique, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Madagascar, Angola, Burkina-Faso, Benin and other states that suffered from the drought.

that year the original vanished. It appears it lay quietly for more than half a century in one of the ancillary premises of an Oslo hospital.

Donald Evans' fantasy

Only after the death of American stamp collector, Donald Evans, did his numerous correspondents realize that they now possessed invaluable treasures. Evans was well known by stamp collectors in many countries. Throughout his life he had collected several thousands of letters. Evans' stamp collection was one of the most complete and valuable in the world. Evans' stamp collection was one of the most complete and valuable in the world.

Green bread

Of late, green bread has become vastly popular in Japan. People who like this new type of food, maintain that it is very good for health. First of all it is high in blood pressure and those suffering from thyroid malfunction. This bread is made from the usual flour mixed with powder obtained from sea weeds. Cooks say this makes the bread healthy.

HOME NEWS

Round the Soviet Union

AN ART EXHIBITION WHICH HAS OPENED IN PETROZAVODSK IS DEDICATED TO THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PUBLICATION (FIRST EDITION) OF THE KARELIAN-FINISH EPOS. Represented at the exhibition are two hundred paintings and graphic sheets by women artists Tamara Yula. Being one of the best illustrators of outstanding works of the past, she is also the designer of costumes for Karelian national ensembles.

A FRESH SUCCESS HAS BEEN SCORED BY THE BUILDERS OF THE MAIN GAS PIPELINE URENGOI - CENTRE-2 WHO HAVE LAID THE 2,500th KILOMETRE OF THE PIPELINE. The pipeline Urengoi-Centre-2 is the sixth and the last line planned to be built under the Five-Year Plan (1981-1985) from Western Siberia.

THE 17TH CENTURY ARCHITECTURAL MONUMENT, THE ASCENSION CHURCH IN VELIKY USTUG IN THE NORTH OF THE EUROPEAN SOVIET UNION, NOW HAS NEW FUNCTIONS. After restoration it now houses a branch of the city local lore museum. Its exposition familiarizes the visitors with one of the traditional folk crafts - samples of wrought carved iron. Veliky Ustug masters were famous throughout Russia for their ability to make laces from the metal.

Computers operate telephone station

An electronic automatic telephone station has been built in Khabarovsk one of the new districts of Leningrad. It was equipped by Leningrad specialists. Electronic computers guarantee excellent connections, reliable operation and lasting use of the equipment. Maintenance has become rather simple. Control is effected from a single panel with displays.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY'S CONTRIBUTION TO NATIONAL ECONOMY

PRAVDA writes that 1984 was rather remarkable for its scientific successes in virtually all industries. It has yielded up almost 4,000 new types of machines, equipment, instruments, devices and automatic facilities. Being introduced are new mechanized and automated production lines, robotic complexes, computer process control systems, more capable devices, etc.

The newspaper stresses that the 1985 USSR plan for socio-economic development is also targeted at ensuring fast growth rates for science and technology.

More products and materials will be introduced offering considerably higher cost-to-performance parameters. Saving of resources will be facilitated by a broader use of continuous steel pouring, dry cement production, comprehensive oil and gas processing, total utilization of raw materials. Numerical control and robots will be used on a broader scale for automation, holding of freight, running of warehouses, etc. Process and other computer controls will be introduced very dynamically. This drive will enable the country to mechanize 400 thousand jobs. Fundamental studies will be developed as before - to provide a foundation for the 12th Five-Year Plan and for a longer perspective.

LAND FARMING: RESULTS AND PERSPECTIVES

People said not so long ago that a century is a very short period for farming. Now, in the eighties every year is either a landmark or at least a critical point for decision-making. 1984 was no exception. IZVESTIA writes, it was a hard year for farmers, remarkable for its length and wide-ranging drought, yet the 1984 gross agricultural produce is expected to grow by



● A white she-bear walking.

The Arctic is an area where even the slightest interference of man may cause undesirable and often irreversible changes. The protection of the brittle northern nature - those animals and plants considered rare or disappearing - is of particular importance.

In the first edition of the USSR Red Data Book (published in 1970) out of the 62 mammal species and subspecies the "northerners" account for five, of 83 species and subspecies of birds they are nine. Considering the poor local fauna, this is not insignificant. Therefore, the organization of preserves for the protection

and study of the northern nature in the Soviet Union is given the necessary attention.

The "maternity home" for white bears is the name of one of the Arctic preserves - the Wrangel Island. Every September hundreds of white she-bears, obeying an unknown navigation instrument, gather here from various parts of the Arctic Ocean, and some 200 or 250 of them give birth to between 300 and 400 cubs. The lots, which are often twins, are born in the first days of the new year. In three months, when they grow up and become stronger, the mother leads them out of the den.

'MATERNITY HOME' FOR WHITE BEARS



● The first look at the world.

Moscow. This is an enhanced version of the famous Belarus widely known abroad. The wheel tractor MTZ-142 has passed tests in different climatic conditions.

The Kama tractor will be used with wide-cut and versatile aggregates for ploughing, cultivation, sowing, harvesting and many other works.

Small rivers have rich reserves

Small rivers can help make arid areas in the Donbas steppe fertile. The bed of one such river, the Kakhlagach, has been cleaned and its water discharge has almost doubled.

The river will feed an irrigation system which is being estab-

lished on the big dairy and vegetable growing collective farm, Chervony Zhovten, in the Maryinsky District. More than 500 hectares of vegetable and fodder growing fields will yield guaranteed harvests.

Road through the mountains

Full-time train traffic has opened along the 60-kilometre stretch of the railway line between Marabda and Akhshaki in the Caucasian Republic of Georgia. From the station of Bedeni to the Georgian capital Tbilisi, a train carrying agricultural produce and other cargoes went along the line laid across mountain gorges and rivers. This has reduced the cost of freight transportation here to one-third of what it cost to deliver goods by trailer.

The construction of the new line is carried out under a programme for the development of the mountainous areas in the south of Georgia the new line is to cross.

The line will give a powerful impetus to the development of the area's economy. It will provide a reliable link between them and the industrial centres, while the industries under construction here will allow to solve the problem of employment. It will also help make an efficient use of the reserves of tufa, volcanic glass and other construction materials abundant in this area.

ENERGY POTENTIAL OF THE SOVIET FAR EAST

A new power transmission line has been connected to the Single Power System of the Far East. This 400-kilometre 500,000-volt power bridge links two major industrial centres - Khabarovsk and Komsomolsk-on-Amur. Its construction increases almost threefold the power potential of the Komsomolsk industrial complex thanks to the additional electricity it brings from the Zoya hydrostation, the biggest project in the eastern Soviet Union.

The new line was completed in just eleven months against the estimated three years. This high rate of construction is dictated by the intense economic development of the Soviet Far East where energy-intensive industries are being built.

Places to visit



Uncle of the art treasure of Soviet peoples completed

It is over in this country the nine-volume fundamental work "A History of the Arts of Soviet Peoples". This is a such large-scale work of 100 pages of text accompanied by as many colour and black and white illustrations and a vast amount of material, which, according to the chief Academician Bogdanov, traces the development of art and decorative art as the architecture of peoples of the Soviet Union.

The high point of the interaction and inter-enrichment of art was reached in the 19th century (starting in 1917), as stated in the 7th-9th volumes. These years the rich artistic ideas and the original living of all Soviet peoples led to emergence of a qualitatively new multinational art.

Science and technology

Ice and its secrets

Ice frosts have frozen Siberia and continue to intensify New Year's Eve. Scientists watching the activities of ice frosts with keen attention. It is a special commission to know which unites experts from several countries. V. Kotlyakov, a member of the international commission of glaciology department of the USSR Academy of Sciences, Institute of Geography:

We do not know much about the kingdom of ice and snow. For instance, scientists are today concerned with finding out the interrelations between volcanic activities and glaciation, the behaviour of glaciers, and their paths. There are many mysterious things that concern the so-called pulsating glaciers. Glaciology is a new science which is developing fast. This science studies the development

and origin of ice, its forms and structure, composition and physical properties. It has vast prospects.

Recently an atlas of world snow and ice resources was prepared for publication. This is a contribution made by Soviet scientists to UNESCO's international hydrological programme. They were the first to draw accurate charts of precipitations, temperature, snow, and discharge of water in poorly known mountain areas filled with glaciers.

Church calendars

The publishing house of the Moscow Patriarchy has issued a 1985 calendar of the Orthodox Church. This calendar continues the systematic publication of articles on religious and historic themes in view of the forthcoming celebrations of the millennium of Russia's christening. The celebrations will be sponsored by the Russian Orthodox Church and are scheduled for 1988.

The opening article takes us back to the end of the 13th and early 14th centuries, when the importance of Moscow Principality began to increase. That was during the reign of Prince Daniel of Moscow (1281-1303). The article also describes the famous people of that time.

The calendar includes a list of memorable days and anniversaries, as well as religious events and Easter weeks during the period between 1985-2005.

Such calendars are issued every year by all churches and religious associations in the Soviet Union.

Tiger seen at a sanatorium

A striped predator had not been noticed outside Khabarovsk for the past forty years. What had lured it there now? Specialists believe that the tiger had made this hundred-kilometre-long trek from the faraway canyons of the Sikhote-Alin in search of food, Khekhtsir is

known for numerous ungulate animals. In a corn field the tiger killed a deer, got satiated, rested and went back to the mountains along a river. The fact that a tiger appeared near a local capital testifies to the growing numbers of Ussuri tigers which were only recently thought to be on the brink of extinction.

For visitors to the USSR



If you are going to visit the Soviet Union on a business or a tourist trip, you may need information on banking services rendered to foreign citizens in the USSR. Please note that on the territory of the USSR all deals with foreign

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You may import into the USSR any foreign currency and payment documents in foreign currency on the sole condition of registering the cash currency in the customs declaration which, as well as the receipt given to you when the currency is exchanged into rubles and will be necessary to you for the exchange of the unused rubles and the export of unused currency. Please note that the import and export of Soviet rubles are prohibited by law.

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If you wish, you may use foreign currency for effecting payments - there are special stores in our country which sell for foreign currency, bars and restaurants of tourists.

However, in our opinion, travellers' cheques of the Bank for Foreign Trade of the USSR in rubles with free conversion are the most convenient means of payment for our foreign guests. These cheques will spare your time and money, as on the territory of the USSR they are paid free of commission, unlike travellers' cheques of other banks.

Apart from purchase and sale of foreign currency and payment documents in foreign currency, banking offices of the USSR (the Bank for Foreign Trade of the USSR and the State Bank of the USSR) accept funds in foreign currency to current accounts and into deposits, transfer funds abroad by orders of their clients and effect other banking operations.

At the salon of the Administration for Commercial Operations of the Bank for Foreign Trade of the USSR (Moscow, 9 Pushkinskaya Street) you can purchase for hard currency bank goods - gold in ingots and nuggets, furs and souvenirs made of precious metals, and also numismatic items.

We hope this information will help you in your journey around the Soviet Union where the Bank for Foreign Trade of the USSR and the State Bank of the USSR are always at your service.

Bank for Foreign Trade of the USSR, 9 Pushkinskaya Street, Moscow.

VIEWPOINT

THE PRESENTS IN FATHER FROST'S SACK

Irina KHUTSISHVILI

The time of Father Frost has come. The most famous among them stands by the most popular Soviet New Year tree in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses. The tradition is that at night, when all the eight million people in Moscow go to bed, a Father Frost "carries" a tall fluffy beautiful fir tree smelling of frost and forest to the Palace, "plants" it in the marble-and-glass foyer, decorates it with bright toys, garlands of multicoloured beads, and electric bulbs, and scatters presents underneath the tree. He then invites jovial actors and young guests to a New Year party. And the time of dances and exciting games begins!

Such functions take place throughout the country, in all concert halls, assembly halls of schools and universities, theatres, palaces and houses of culture and clubs. New Year trees are decorated at squares of towns and villages, in parks and yards, at stadiums and skating rinks, in window shops and, certainly, in almost all the flats.

Farther Frost attends festivals in trains, all in boats, board planes, and travel by helicopter to mountainous places. They are seen in reindeer-drawn sledges in the Far North and, of course, in Russian troikas in places where the ground is covered with snow. More and more Father Frosts are coming with their magic sacks. What do these sacks contain this year? Toys and sweets for children. For grown-ups 1985, the last year of the current eleventh five-year plan, means further growth of living standards and real incomes.

There have been increases in wages and salaries paid to industrial and office workers, as well as collective farmers. More money will be spent from social consumption funds on various benefits, including free medical services, education, pensions, scholarships, sick leaves and vacations, etc. In 1985, the social consumption funds will grow by five per cent and will reach 146.6 thousand million rubles. This is 2.8 thousand million rubles more than the amount envisaged in the final year of the five-year plan. Due attention is devoted to bringing up the younger generation, and to improvements in the vocational training of the young. New schools, creches, kindergartens and vocational and technical schools will be opened. The number of outpatient clinics, medical posts and hospitals will increase to enable Soviet health services to get closer to their goal of disease prevention.

Slightly less than 103 million square metres of new housing will be built in 1985. In all, 144 million metres of housing is to be built next year. During the 11th five-year plan period 1981-1985 nearly 655 million square metres of housing is to be commissioned. More than fifty million people will improve their living conditions.

What gives us confidence that these plans are realistic? It is the continuous growth of the Soviet economy, which knows no crises. There is work for everyone, and unemployment is long forgotten since autumn 1930. All this will enable the Soviet people to formulate new plans and to greet the new year confidently.



NO LIMIT TO RECORDS

Sergei Bubka, world pole-vault record holder and champion, for the first time named the best Soviet sportsman of the year:

I am happy with the recognition my sports achievements have won. On the eve of the New Year apparently everyone ponders over what was done in the passing years and plans for the future. I also have a cherished wish: I dream of conquering the six-metre height. I am sure there is no limit to records in sport. They say that I am a maximalist. But how can it be otherwise? To achieve high records one should aim high. But goals may only be realized if there is peace on earth.

Only peace and understanding among people can help overcome difficulties which exist today in the Olympic movement. Outside the Olympic movement, international sport and friendship between sportsmen of various countries cannot freely and comprehensively develop, neither can there be sport meets that make competitions lively and yield high results.

I want to please sports fans with good performances, wins and records.

I wish that representatives of athletics, which is justly termed "queen of sports", always compete in crowded stadiums. These



are many wishes and I have not yet said that I married in autumn and an additional member is expected in the Bubka family and that many of plans are connected with the course at the Kiev Institute of Physical Culture. I think that dreams, plans and hopes can be realized. I also wish all my relatives, friends and numerous sports fans a healthy and happy life.

High records in downhill

The women's World cup downhill, held in Santa Caterina (Italy) shortly before the Christmas and New Year vacations, brought a triple success to Austria. The top three finishers Elisabeth Kirccher, Veronika Vizthum and Katrin Guttenwin came far ahead of Olympic champion Michele Figini of Switzerland.

After the 1984 stages (the "Crystal Globe" will resume next year), the "race" is led by Ma-

rina Kiehl of West Germany with 81 points. Trailing her but still far ahead of the pack is Kirccher with 70 points. Erika Hess of Switzerland has 59 points.

Earlier, the men's event was cancelled in Bormio, Italy (where, incidentally, next year's world Alpine skiing championship will be held). So still leading are Pirmin Zurbriggen of Switzerland (104 points) and Mark Girardelli of Luxembourg (95 points).

Trud wins European Cup

We have reported that the contesting sides in the final match of the tournament for Europe's best chess team were two Soviet teams representing the Trud and Burevestnik sport clubs. The Cup has been won by Trud (for the third time) after playing two rounds on six chess boards.

The greatest contribution to Trud's success was made by Alexander Belyavsky who recently led the USSR national team which won the World

Chess Olympiad in Saloniki, Greece. On two occasions Belyavsky defeated the twice USSR champion Lev Pshehis.

The men's world chess championship resumed on Wednesday, December 28 after a week-long break. On that day, Anatoly Karpov and Gari Kasparov played the thirty-fifth game after which the score was still 5-1 in favour of the thrice world champion as the contestants agreed on another draw.

ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Sarajevo Olympics figure-skating champion Katarina Witt and javelin record holder Uwe Hohn were voted GDR athletes of the year in an annual survey carried out by the youth paper "Junge Welt".

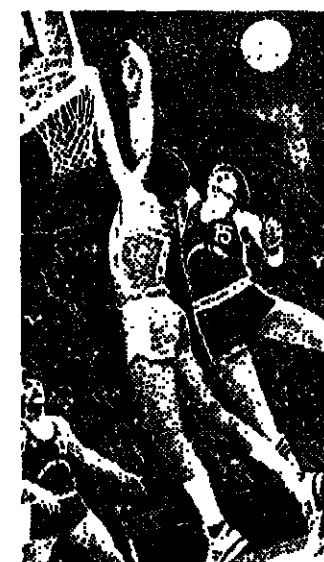
World high-jump record holder Lyudmila Andonova was

RINAT DASAYEV named in world team

USSR football line-up goal-keeper Rinat Dasayev of Moscow Spartak has been named in an all-world team selected by the popular British "World Soccer" magazine.

The magazine's oldest observer Eric Bely, who compiled the team, writes that the popularity of football in some countries has declined and the current outstanding players, including Dasayev, should bring spectators back to the stadiums and make football more appealing to the youth.

The team named by him also features defenders—Alain Ciresse of France, Martin Olsen of Denmark, Maxime Bossis of France; midfielders—Alan Simonsen of Denmark, Socrates of Brazil, Jean Tigana and Michel Platini of France, Diego Maradona of Argentina; and forwards—Karl-Heinz Rummenigge of West Germany and Bruno Conti of Italy.



The eight best teams will continue to vie early in January for the medals of the USSR basketball championship in Moscow and Kaunas. And the outgoing year ended in the thrilling game between the leaders—the Central Army Club and Kaunas Zalgiris (see photo). Zalgiris won 80-78.

Photo by Sergei Proskov

named Bulgaria's athlete of the year by the newspaper "Naroden Sport" and the sports writers association.

1984 Olympic champions and world figure-skating dancing duo Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean were voted British athletes of the year by the BBC.

OPINION OF DPRK OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

Seoul is a place in all respects unsuitable for the holding of the 24th Olympic Games, is the opinion of the Olympic Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea expressed in a letter by its Chairman, Kim Yu Sun, to the IOC President.

The letter circulated by the Chung Yang Tongsan agency, says that Seoul cannot be an arena for a world sporting festival such as the Olympics which should promote friendship, accord and understanding. South Korea is rather an unstable area over which hangs the perpetual threat of war. American troops and nuclear weapons are in that country and constant war manoeuvres are held there.

OF INTEREST

SHARP SHOTS COME TO HELP

Sharp shots fired by candidate master of sport Yuri Komanov eliminated a breakdown in a kiln at the Krasnodar chinaware factory Chalka.

...In the shop where the wares are tempered at temperatures above 1,000°C, one of the kilns unexpectedly began to turn out substandard products. Specialists made a "diagnosis": a brick which moved forward a bit from the kiln ceiling brickwork disrupted the necessary temperature regime. The stopping of the kiln threatened the factory with substantial losses.

Chief engineer Yuri Komanov came to the assistance. Even for an experienced sportsman the conditions for the performance of the task were very complex—the kiln breathed "hot even though the flame in it was turned down a bit. Through the fire curtain Yuri fired ten shots from a small-bore rifle and with a jeweller's accuracy chipped off a piece of the brick and then levelled the edge with the brickwork line.

A survey by the Chinese athletics association, the Association of the Chinese sports press, some sports publications, radio and TV have named Zhu Jianhua, the world high-jump record holder, as China's athlete of the year.

HUMOUR



Drawing by Yuri Ivanov



Drawing by Boris Leonov

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